



# Wheeling National Heritage Area

West Virginia

**Authorized** November 2000

**Years since Designation**

2000 2002

**Management Entity** Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation  
(non-profit management corporation)

**Management Plan Status** revision to draft plan in process

**Square Mileage of Counties in Heritage Area** 106

## 2000 Census Data

| Data                                      | 2000 Census | Percent Change from 1990 |
|---|-------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Total Population</i>                   | 47,427      | -6.8                     |
| <i>Persons under 18 Years, Percent</i>    | 21.3        | -2.7                     |
| <i>Persons 25-44 Years, Percent</i>       | 25.1        | -10.0                    |
| <i>Persons Over 65 Years, Percent</i>     | 18.8        | -.5                      |
| <i>White Alone, Percent</i>               | 94.1        | -1.9                     |
| <i>Hispanic Origin, Percent</i>           | 0.5         | +67                      |
| <i>Black or African American, Percent</i> | 3.6         | +9.1                     |
| <i>Median Household Income (2000 \$)</i>  | n/a         | n/a                      |
| <i>Percent Unemployed</i>                 | n/a         | n/a                      |
| <i>Percent Below Poverty Level</i>        | n/a         | n/a                      |

## Resources Profile

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <i>Number of National Register Properties</i> | 53 |
| <i>Number of National Historic Landmarks</i>  | 2  |
| <i>National Natural Landmarks</i>             | 0  |
| <i>National Park Units</i>                    | 0  |

**Congressional Districts** 1

**Local Government Units** 12



## Profile

Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Wheeling served as the “Crossroads of America,” playing an important role in the settlement of the Nation. Transportation, a major heritage theme, is represented by the national Historic Landmark Wheeling Suspension Bridge, the first bridge to cross the Ohio River. West Virginia Independence Hall, the former U.S. Customs House for this 19<sup>th</sup> century inland port, was the birthplace of the state of West Virginia during the Civil War. Wheeling was also site of many industries crucial to the Nation’s expansion including iron and steel, nails, textiles, boat building, glass manufacturing, and stogie and tobacco manufacturing. LaBelle Cut Nails, one of two manufacturers in the nation, continues to produce cut nails with equipment and a process that is over 150 years old.

## Contact Information

**Wheeling National Heritage Area**

1400 Main Street

Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

tel. 304 232-3087 | fax. 304 232-1812

heritage@stratuswave.net